

News From North Atlantic Region—

New Fast Ferry Terminal Moves Short Sea Shipping Forward in Port of New Bedford



Left to Right: Philip Chase, Jr., Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority Port Council; Robert McKeon, North Atlantic Region Director, MARAD; Frederick Kalisz, Jr., Mayor of New Bedford, and his son Ricky; Kerry Healey, Lieutenant Governor, State of Massachusetts; Astrid Glynn, Deputy Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; and David Olivera, Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority Port Council.

Photo by Joe Duvall

North Atlantic Region Director Robert McKeon recently joined the Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, the Mayor of New Bedford, Massachusetts, and other key state and local port officials to dedicate a new 8,500-square-foot fast ferry terminal in the Port of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

The city of New Bedford is one of three ports selected nationwide as a Portfields Demonstration Pilot Port. The Portfields Program is a federal interagency partnership to address the economic and beneficial use of brownfields in local port communities. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

With federal, state, and city support, New Bedford is revitalizing its waterfront, improving marine transportation, and developing additional commercial port facilities.

The new terminal is central to these efforts. The city is planning to operate a high-speed commuter rail service from downtown Boston directly to the terminal and provide intermodal transportation for passengers, vehicles, trucks, and

freight moving between New Bedford, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. New Bedford-based New England Fast Ferry transported 78,000 passengers between New Bedford and Martha's Vineyard in 2004, and expects to carry more than 120,000 passengers this year. Also planned is a fast freight ferry service from New Bedford that is expected to remove up to 12,000 trucks per year from area highways. Short sea shipping-related opportunities in New Bedford also include the use of existing brownfield sites as container storage and distribution centers.

Arrivals and Departures—

Joe Duvall Completes Successful Rotational Tour at North Atlantic Region Office

Joe Duvall, Transportation Leadership Program Participant, has completed his rotational assignment at the North Atlantic Region Office and moved on to additional assignments at MARAD Headquarters. During his three months at the Region Office, Joe worked extensively with the Region Director and Maritime Program Specialist to network with senior industry and port officials and implement agency programs related to port security, intermodal operations, supply chain dynamics, and port and vessel operations within the 11-state North Atlantic Region.

Joe developed a website for tracking other Class of 2006 Transportation Leadership Participants. MARAD employees may access it at <http://intramarad.dot.gov/HRWEB/images/TrackingTLP.pps>.



Left to Right: William McDonald, Maritime Program Specialist, North Atlantic Region; Joe Duvall, Transportation Leadership Program Participant; and Robert McKeon, Region Director, North Atlantic Region